

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated February 28, 2002, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Add new claims 18 through 21 as follows:

18. (New) A method for the determination of the invasive and metastatic capacity of an epithelial tumour, said method compound:

a. obtaining a biological sample from said epithelial tumour;

b. determining the presence of a diagnostic marker, Snail, in said biological sample; and

c. comparing the presence of said diagnostic marker with its absence in a control sample, the presence of said marker in said biological sample being indicative of the invasive and metastatic capacity of said epithelial tumour.

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